TRANS 'A' GRAM

FROM CHRISTY HOPPING TRANSGENDERED SPOKESPERSON

HELLO LADIES,

IT IS WITH DEEP SADNESS THAT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TRANSGENDERED COMMUNITY AND THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY HAS DETERIORATED TO THE POINT I MUST WRITE THIS LETTER.

IT HAS NOW BECOME JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE FOR TRANSGENDERED PEOPLE TO OBTAIN MEDICAL CARE EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS. THOSE DESERVING OF HORMONE THERAPY COULD EASILY TRAVEL TO THE MOON THAN OBTAIN A PRESCRIPTION HERE. THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AREN'T GIVING RECOMENDATIONS TO ANYONE, AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS HAVE COME UP WITH AN ARRAY OF PHONEY EXCUSES AS TO WHY THEY CAN'T PRESCRIBE HORMONES , OR EVEN TREAT AILMENTS OF THOSE ALREADY ON HORMONES.
THERE IS JUST A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF T.G. PEOPLE WHO CURRENTLY HAVE A DOCTOR, AND ONLY A HANDFULL OF PEOPLE ARE OBTAINING THEIR FIRST PRESCRIPTION FOR HORMONES IN COLORADO.

THE MONTH OF JULY CROSSTOWN'S HOTLINE RECEIVED 42 CALLS FROM ACROSS THE STATE AND JUST ABOUT ALL OF THEM WERE TRYING TO FIND A DOCTOR TO GIVE A PREMARIN PRESCRIPTION. SEVERAL CALLERS SIMPLY NEEDED A DOCTOR TO DO SOME BLOOD TESTS OR TREAT SMALL AILMENTS . TO MY KNOWLEDGE ONLY 1 NEW WOMAN OBTAINED THEIR FIRST HORMONE PRESCRIPTION , AND 1 PERSON NEEDING BLOOD TESTS FOUND A DENVER DOCTOR TO ACCEPT THEM. I FEAR SOME OF THE OTHER 40 PEOPLE LEFT OUT ARE NOW CONTEMPLATING SUICIDE.

DR. MARY E. FAIRBANKS OF DENVER WHO ADVERTISES FOR GAY BUSINESS, CALLED POLICE ON A TRANSGENDERED PERSON WHO WAS TRYING TO GET AN AILMENT CARED FOR BECAUSE THEY WERE ON HORMONES WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION. THE PERSON WAS NOT ARRESTED BECAUSE THEY HAD AN OUT OF STATE DRIVERS LISCENSE.IT IS ILLEGAL FOR A COLORADO RESIDENT TO POSESS PREMARIN WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION .

CROSSTOWN'S REFERRAL LIST FOR DOCTORS NOW READS EMPTY, I HAVE NO DOCTORS TO RECOMMEND, AND ONLY 2 C.S.P.S. AND 2 DENVER MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHOM I TRUST TO GIVE OF SOUND MORRALS. DR. BIBER EVEN CALLED ME IN HOPES I HAD A REFERRAL FOR A PERSON READY FOR HORMONE THERAPY. WE STRUCK OUT.

SO ARE WE GOING TO LET THESE NERVOUS NELLEY MAL PRACTICE INSURERS TAKE AWAY OUR RIGHT AS A HUMAN BEING TO HAVE MEDICAL CARE. WILL WE BE AT THE MERCY OF THERAPISTS WHO TOUT THERAPY, THERAPY, AND MORE THERAPY , AND IF YOU SPEND A FEW GRAND AND ARE LUCKY JUST RIGHT YOU MIGHT GET A RECOMENDATION.

NO WERE NOT ! YOU ARE IN CHARGE OF YOUR DESTINY. YOU DO HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE QUALITY MEDICAL CARE , AND THE RIGHT TO PERSUE HAPPINESS !

ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE I WILL GIVE ONLY 1 OF HUNDREDS OF PLACES THAT THOSE DESERVING CAN EASILY OBTAIN A PRESCRIPTION FOR PREMARIN AND PROVERA, AND PURCHACE THEM AT ABOUT 1/4 THE PRICE WE ARE PAYING HERE. WHERE YOU CAN BE TREATED LIKE ROYALTY AND RECEIVE QUALITY MEDICAL CARE AT A FRACTION OF CURRENT COSTS.
THIS IS NO BULL ! BUT A SURE THING ! I HAVE NEVER GIVEN THIS REFERRAL OUT BEFORE , BUT I FEEL THERE IS NOW A NEED BY OUR COMMUNITY FOR SUCH A REFERRAL. CALL CROSSTOWN FOR FURTHER INFORMATION (719) 598-5886

TRANS 'A' GRAM

FROM CHRISTY HOPPING TRANSCENDERED SPOKESPERSON

TO START WITH , A PRESCRIPTION FROM MEXICO CANNOT BE FILLED IN THE U.S. HOWEVER IT WILL GIVE YOU THE LEGAL RIGHT TO POSESS AND TAKE THIS MEDICATION. A HORMONE PRESCRIPTION WILL BE GIVEN TO ANYONE DESERVING BY JUST ABOUT ANY MEXICAN PLASTIC SURGEON, OR DOCTOR. THE FOLLOWING DRUG STORE WILL ALSO RECOMMEND AN ACCEPTING PHYSICIAN WHERE A PRESCRIPTION CAN BE EASILY OBTAINED. YOU DO NOT NEED A PRESCRIPTION TO PURCHACE PREMARIN IN MEXICO, AND ALSO DONT NEED A PRESCRIPTION TO BRING IT BACK ACROSS THE BORDER. YOU CAN WALK INTO ANY DRUG STORE IN MEXICO AND PURCHACE A 2 YEAR SUPPLY WITH NO QUESTIONS ASKED.!
TO BRING THEM BACK ACROSS THE BORDER YOU MUST DECLAIR THEM, AND THE BORDER GUARDS MAY ASK HOW MANY YOU HAVE, AND HOW MUCH YOU PAID. AND THATS IT !! YOUR IN. BORDER GUARDS ARE TAKING AWAY ANYTHING LIKE STEROIDS, OR ANYTHING THAT GETS YOU HIGH, UPPERS/ DOWNERS. YOU MAY HAVE TO SAY " I'M TRANSSEXUAL AND THESE ARE MY HORMONES. " BUT IT PROBABLY WONT GO THAT FAR. YOU SHOULD TAKE TIME TO GET A PRESCRIPTION WHILE THERE TO MAKE YOU MORE LEGAL HERE IN THE STATES.

THE FOLLOWING DRUG STORE IS 1 OF MANY ACROSS MEXICO OWNED BY DR. RAMIREZ , A PARTNER OF DR. RONALD BROWN PLASTIC SURGEON. THEY ARE AT THE NEW WOMAN CLINIC IN TIJUANA MEXICO, AND YOU CAN GET A PRESCRIPTION THERE, AND BE DIRECTED TO A LOCAL DRUG STORE FOR PURCHACE. REMEMBER YOU CAN GO ANYWHERE, BUT THESE ARE ACCEPTING OF OUR COMMUNITY. HERE IS A MUCH CLOSER PLACE TO GO ALSO OWNED BY DR. RAMIRFZ.
THIS IS JUST ACROSS THE ARIZONA BORDER.

BOTICA KENT "MEANS DRUG STORE"
AVENUE ZARAGOZA, Y CALLE 6TA
SAN LUIS, R.C. SONORA. MEXICO

PHONE NUMBER # 4-03-85

A 2 YEAR SUPPLY OF PREMARIN 1.25 mg. & PROVERA 5 mg. WILL COST ABOUT $200 . RECOMMENDED DOSAGE : YOU CAN TAKE UP TO 2.5 mg. PREMARIN AND ONLY 2.5 mg. PROVERA MAY BE NEEDED FOR YOU. PROVERA CAN MAKE YOU REAL AGGRESSIVE SO ONLY TAKE WHAT YOU NEED. TAKE 1 PER DAY EACH. THE PREMARIN IS QUALITY MANUFACTURED IN MEXICO WITH A [illegible] IT LOOKS JUST LIKE THE PREMARIN YOU BUY HERE WITH THE [illegible] PRINTED ON EACH PILL, AND IF YOU WANT A PRESCRIPTION JUST ASK AND YOU WILL BE DIRECTED TO AN ACCEPTING PHYSICIAN. YOU WILL NEED TO PROVE YOUR DESERVING OF THE PRESCRIPTION, BUT YOU WILL FIND IT 10 TIMES EASIER THAT HERE IN THE U.S.

THIS IS JUST 1 OF HUNDREDS OF MEXICAN REFER[illegible]S NOW BEING COMPILED.
I HOPE THIS HELPS, THIS DOES GIVE YOU THE CONT[illegible] YOU DESERVE OVER YOUR OWN BODY AND YOUR LIFE D[illegible]INY.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES
LOVE CHRISTY HOPPING

Laura Denise Masters
[redacted]
A TransEqual Member

August 9, 1993

HOPPING.001

Christy Hopping
[redacted]

Dear Christy;
I received your "Trans A Gram" today, and frankly I was flabbergasted. Such problems.

I've been watching news of the goings on in Colorado on several of the talk shows and news broadcasts. I must say I don't envy you or those you seek to help. Seeing gays all but outlawed and then watching as the government --stupidly-- also tossed transvestites, transsexuals and transgenderists into the soup, has been very unsettling for me. I can only prey this doesn't happen here.

Fortunately, we don't (presently) share your problem. In Canada there is currently quite a bit of forward motion in transgender rights issues. We have recently gained the support of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, and we are now working on the provinces. The refusals of care you are experiencing are now illegal in Canada and will be prosecutable as soon as the proper human rights guidelines are put into place. So you see, Christy, this is a battle that can be won.

Have you tried filing a case or two, arguing for exemption from the gay-hate laws on the basis that transgender identity is not a sexual orientation, or an issue of sex life?

Looking forward to your reply...

Sincerely,
Laura Masters

CHRISTY HOPPING

[redacted]

8-14-93

LAURA DENISE MASTERS
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Hello Laura

Thats great things are going well for the transgendered movement in Canada. Things here seem to keep getting worse for the t.g. community. The problems created by Ammendment #2 for us will take a long long time to overcome. Transgendered people actually werent mentioned in #2 but were probably the hardest hit by the actions of the general public here. The t.g. community in Colorado has been deeply driven into the closet, most are even afraid to attend group support meetings here. Callers to my helpline have told of countless incidences of being thrown out of their homes and fired from their jobs. Our numbers of homeless t.g. people have become very upsetting. More and more t.s.'s have turned to prostitution as their only means of support. 25 % claim to have been raped by police in our nation. I forsee a larger aids epidemic for us in the coming years. We have 3 suicides in our state "those known of" in the month of July. Now with a statewide refusal of care from doctors for transsexuals the situation is grim. Those who dont have a doctor arent going to get one. The sex change capitol of the world has become a transsexuals hell.

Rumor of a mal practice suit in Denver Colo. is fueling this. A family of a transsexual is suing a doctor for prescribing hormones while knowing of the patients heavy cigarrette smoking. The patient droped dead from blood clots. Most doctors here dont know how to deal with us. The standard of care is not used much by doctors here because of abuse and unfairness by the mental health professionals. My doctor had to ask me what to prescribe for me.The religious rights stone throwing hasent helped things either.

It wasnt really the government that threw transgendered into the gay issue. The transgendered people in America are very much a part of the gay community, It was the drag queens that faught back and started the gay movement 20 years ago, and every year the gay pride parades are a celebration of that event. However the t.g. communitys fight for rights along with the gays & lesbians has diluted the gay rights movement somewhat. So it has been harder to gain recognition from the G & L community.

You mentioned arguing exemption from the gay hate laws. Ammendment 2 is still on hold by a court order, but in the event it goes into effect , I feel any seperation from the gay and t.g. community would weaken both our causes. Transgendered identity not being sexual orientation doesnt hold water here, my husband and I are still viewed by the law as 2 biological males living with each other, or as gay. I suppose it would work for those attracted to their biological opposite. Some would say we are hanging on the coat tails of the G & L community in hopes a few civil rights will come our way. Without the Colorado gay and lesbian community, the t.g. community would have nothing. Nowhere to go and nothing to do.

The transgendered people who dont have ties to the G & L community are definately missing out. I am far far ahead in transition than those who do not feel a part of the gay community. My belonging has provided me with an accepting community in which I can interface with, and polish my actions for living and fitting in with the general public. Early in transition i was able to have more outings in a month as a woman, than those who only interface with the straight community could have in a year. I live all the time now as a woman and I couldnt have done it without the smiles and support I received from the gay & lesbian community.

Lets keep in touch and be sure to share important news with each other. Love -t

TOTAL P.02

CHRISTY HOPPING FAX (719) 598-5886
[redacted] COLO. SPGS. CO. [redacted]
Equal Rights Advocate for American Trans Gendered Community

To: TransEqual 165 Ontario St. Unit 609
St. Catharines, Ontario. L2R-5K4

11/5/93

Dear Laura ,
I applaud your activism and realistic views. You have really made me think about my positions on various subjects ! As I hope I have done the same for you.

I 100% agree with your view that once one understands that transsexualism doesnt exist that is a major step in a person stopping the discrimination they inflict upon themselves. The generation of transsexuals and the medical community we have now indeed have been convincing our people that they are mentally ill or not a social equal. We most definately are controlled and oppressed by those we keep in power above us. Your views about the Standards of Care need no further explanation !. I must sadly agree with you about the worlds GIC's . The Stockholm Syndrome is a very good discription of our peoples actions.

The fact that there are four and not two naturally occouring combinations of sex and gender is the starting point for gaining equal rights . We must continue to push this point to our governments and dispute the mentall illness discription of us.

I agree transgenderists are inclusionists wishing to fit into the social mainstream, that is one of our main goals in life. I disagree however that gays and TV's are seperatists wanting to move away from the social mainstream. I feel the majority of gay people and TV's fit very well into society, and there "out" in your face status was forced upon them by the religious rights movement. Any person should be able to be any nationality, Gay, religious, or transgendered without facing discrimination. I wished for us to politically unite "with the gays to" fight the right", and for the gay & TG's to recognise the people both sides ousted when reevualuating themselves after the wins from the anti gays. About 1/4 of the whole TG community that are very much part of the gay community were politically and socially swept out the door. Rejected by the remaining 65% straight TG's that hold most organizations, unable to unite themselves, they were left feeling "alone on an iceberg.

However in the transsexuals & transgenderists case , yes I agree an "out" status is a confliction to ourselves view of our own womanhood or manhood and doesnt not promote our fitting into society. Yes we must strive for invisible social integration. I ask everyone to please look at the problem of how our past "out" status has been the reason that we haven't been able to socially advance in the way of fair rights in our corrections system, educating the public, government, and the medical community that we are not mentally ill. We have done very little in 20 years to help the person starting or in a transsition.

I never asked for an out society of transsexuals. All transsexuals should stand up for their rights when the problem presents it's self. I ask that all transgenderists & transsexuals on this occasion proudly stand up to [illegible] officials and tell them "" It is an outrage to place transsexuals in the "Opposite Gender" [illegible] corrections system. "" "" The hormonal treatments on our minds and bodies place us in certain physical danger when housed within the "Opposite Gender" and is of a mental cruelty unbecoming to our modern society !"" "" Our medical records [illegible] are our life blood and should never be taken away."" Do the same to the medical community which has inslaved us with an unfair SOC.

I have my prescription, and in a couple years hope to have surgery. I now pass in public very well , I am becoming comfortable as a woman within society and can easily disappear within it. I will probably not be arrested in the future. "knock on wood"
I could do just what almost every other transsexual has done before me and walk away from the issues once transsition is complete. I wouldn't think very much of myself if I did that.

Sincerely *Christy Hopping*

TOTAL P.01